Rt. 8, Frederick, Md. 21701
4/12/75

Mr. Tom Susman, Counsel
Administrative Practises Subcommittee
Senate Office Bldg.
Washington, D.C.

Dear Tom,

Were I to write Mike Epstein directly he might, especially after his conversation with Jim Lesar, misunderstand my motive. He might, for example, believe I am trying to pressure him in some way. I'm not.

Committees may read their mandates one way, laymen another. My interpretation of the charge of the Church committee is that it is to investigate the agencies. I do not, for example, believe it has the responsibility of making a separate investigation of assassinations. However, I also believe that the only safe way to investigate the assassinations, for which I am aware of the considerable pressure as well as more to come, is in terms of the investigation of these agencies and whatever connection, if only investigative, they had.

Not until this morning was I able to read the Anderson-Whitten column that appeared in the Post on the 7th. It reminded me of an interview of several former mercenaries in anti-Castro activity I taped as I now recall the end of October 1968. And what followed when finally the Department of Justice went through the motions of doing something about the almost endless violations of such laws as the neutrality act and made a few gestures about a Haitian invasion from the U.S.

On October 8, 1969, after some indictments in Miami, I phoned the Criminal Division which later called back and asked me to see a James C. Morris in the Internal Security Division on the fifth floor of the Federal Triangle Bldg. I went there. Morris was quite excited and said someone would be up to see me on Monday. What Monday he did not say. Whatever Monday, it has not yet come.

Aside from other information, I was present when all this planning of an invasion of Haiti was being discussed quite openly before me by these men. While the batteries went dead during the interview, the taping was not clandestine and some of the tape has to be good. But the Department and the FBI had no interest. The only thing that ever happened is that under date of October 13, 1969 I received a carbon copy of the indictment from J. Walter Yeagley by John H. Davitt.

The interview was in the home of a pathological liar, Gerald Patrick Hemming, in El Monte, California, with one Lawrence Howard, his associate then and earlier, also present. Both appear in the Warren Commission materials. The FBI attributed a forecast of the JFK assassination to three men, one of whom was Howard. I had three interviews with another man the FBI said was involved, another dubious character, Loran Eugene Hall. All spoke openly about illegal acts within the United States about which nothing happened for years apparently because these illegalities were consistent with CIA desires. Hall, already a suspect in an aspect of the JFK investigation, told me on tape of being offered a large sum to do that killing. It is not reflected in the FBI reports in the Archives. (In Whitewash II, "The Hoover Diversion.")

I know nothing about the Pritchard case reported in the column. Nor can I prove the truthfulness of what Hemming and Howard told me, that they were under CIA sponsorship. I merely report these matters in the event they may at some point be of some interest to some committee.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg